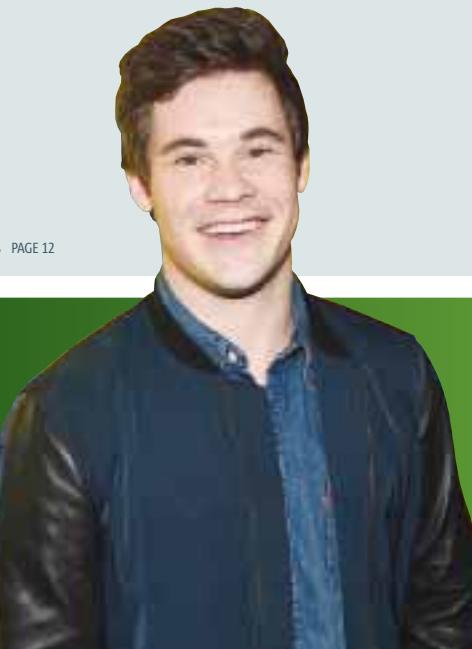


# ADAM DEVINE COMES CLEAN ON HIS PAST

THE "PITCH PERFECT 2" STAR'S SURPRISE DENZEL CONNECTION. PAGE 12



# metro

NEW YORK CITY No. 1 F  
Weekend, May 15-17, 2015 [www.metro.us](http://www.metro.us)

A dramatic scene from the movie 'Fury Road' showing Tom Hardy as Max Rockatansky riding a vehicle through a massive fire. He is wearing a dark, rugged outfit. The background is filled with intense flames and smoke.

## WILD RIDE

**He's back.** Tell your other summer blockbusters they're fired. "Mad Max" returns to screens in a supersize blaze of glory. We talk to new star Tom Hardy about its sly feminism and Charlize Theron about being the film's true soul. PAGE 10

Tom Hardy takes over Mad Max — loner of the postapocalypse — in "Fury Road," the franchise's first installment since "Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome." / WARNER BROS. PICTURES

**Two guys buying medical debt**

PAGE 02

**Military searches Nepal for chopper**

PAGE 08

**Esperanza Spalding is creating an alter ego**

PAGE 15



**Rangers shift their attention to Lightning**

PAGE 17

# 1

## NEWS

Top 3

**The best of Metro.us**

1 'Who is Amtrak driver Brandon Bostian?'

2 '3 office hacks for when you don't have a standing desk'

3 '5 tricks to raise your credit score'



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Want to read the latest news on your mobile device? Get the free Metro App! Find out what happened while you were sleeping and get the latest in news, sports, lifestyle and entertainment. Just search for Metro US in the App Store or Google Play.



Craig Antico, left, and Jerry Ashton of RIP Medical Debt, have started a campaign to expunge medical debt. / BESS ADLER, METRO

# These guys want to help pay your medical bills

**Debt.** Jerry Ashton and Craig Antico want to help people get out of it.

Claire Elyse LaRoche had "excellent insurance" last year.

But when LaRoche, who has a congenital heart defect began having other health issues last year, she found herself responsible for paying the majority of the tab for nearly weekly appointments and tests with specialists that cost thousands of dollars.

LaRoche, 28, has whittled down her medical debt to about \$2,500 since then, but has relied on family members and credit cards to foot the bills.

"I graduated [from college] in a recession. ... They really hound you. I just

got sick of the calls and ended up charging it," said LaRoche, who works part-time at a national health nonprofit and runs a marketing and events blog.

LaRoche said she has new insurance this year that isn't as great, and she "thinks twice about going to doctors" and often waits to see if symptoms go away before booking an appointment.

"I really don't want to take on any additional debt," LaRoche said.

Last year, 64 million Americans had difficulty paying their medical debt, according to a report by the Commonwealth Fund, down from 75 million in 2012 and 73 million in 2010.

Jerry Ashton and Craig Antico think they can put a dent in America's medical debt crisis, and want to help those who really need

to pay their bills, no strings attached.

At face value, Ashton and Antico are perhaps unlikely advocates for those who owe medical bills. They have decades of experience as medical debt collectors.

They recently launched RIP Medical Debt, a nonprofit, and accompanying initial crowdfunding campaign to raise \$74,500 to purchase and absolve strangers' medical debt.

The goal for the first

### Quoted

**"If a person can pay, we don't want to buy it [debt] and forgive it. If people can't pay we want to buy it and forgive it."**

Antico

year is to raise \$14 million, purchase \$1 billion of medical debt and abolish it. They get more bang for their buck because debt collectors can buy medical debt for a fraction of the price, then aggressively go after the person who owes it for the total amount.

"What is it about me and Craig that makes us perverse in our industry?" Ashton jokes. "We want to go in there and we want to buy that debt for pennies on the dollar, the difference is when we get that debt, we then put a stake through its heart."

The organizers believe they are the only organization in the world trying to eradicate medical debt.

 WENDY JOAN BIDDLECOMBE  
Wendy.Biddlecombe@metro.us



David Baril / NYPD

## Charged. Alleged NYC hammer attacker arrested for assault

David Baril, the man accused of attacking a police officer and at least four other people with a hammer this week, was arrested on felony assault charges Thursday morning.

Baril, 30, was arrested at Bellevue Hospital, where

he was taken Wednesday after being shot by an NYPD officer in Midtown.

Baril was shot after allegedly hitting Officer Lauren O'Rourke with a hammer in the area of West 37th Street and Eighth Avenue. O'Rourke and her partner, Officer

Geraldo Casaigne, recognized Baril's photo, which had been distributed to all patrol officers. The man then attacked the officer after he realized he was being followed, Police Commissioner Bill Bratton said during a press conference on Wednesday. **WJB**

### Transportation



LIRR / GETTY IMAGES

## Expect LIRR delays this weekend

Long Island Rail Road riders should expect significant service disruptions this weekend. No trains are running between Hicksville and Mineola because the Ellison Avenue Bridge in Westbury is being demolished. The outage is expected to affect 40,000 LIRR riders.

There are special timetables for all LIRR branches. Buses replace some of the trains, and other trains are being rerouted.

The MTA is urging riders to plan for an additional hour of travel time, and avoid the Ronkonkoma and Port Jefferson branches.

More information on the special schedule is available at [www.mta.info](http://www.mta.info) or by calling 511 or 718-217-5477. **METRO**

### Class action

## Nail salon workers file lawsuit over wages

Two New York City manicurists on Thursday filed a proposed class action lawsuit claiming four nail salons routinely violated minimum wage and overtime laws, days after a New York Times investigation revealed rampant wage theft and hazardous conditions in the industry.

The lawsuit says employees at the salons, which have the same owners, are paid \$60 or less for 10-hour shifts and are often denied breaks.

The lawsuit said the salons — Nailway, Naulo Nails, Nailsmetic and Nailsure — violated state minimum wage law and a federal law requiring time-and-a-half pay for overtime and breaks. **REUTERS**

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# Train was accelerating before crash

**Investigation.** The probe continues into what caused the deadly Amtrak #188 crash.

In the final 60 seconds before Amtrak 188 derailed, the train accelerated from 75 mph to more than 100 mph, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) reported Thursday evening.

However, no official cause of the crash or reason why the train accelerated has been determined, said NTSB board member Robert Sumwalt.

All equipment on the train is being examined for anomalies, but none have yet been detected, he said.

Newly identified among the dead on Thursday were Laura Finamore, 47, a Manhattan realtor, Italian businessman Giuseppe Piras, Derrick Griffith, the dean of student affairs and enrollment management at Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn and Bob Gildersleeve, an executive with a food-safety company, who was found in the train's wreckage on Thursday by a cadaver dog.

Previously identified as fatalities were Associated Press employee Jim Gaines, 48, New York resident and Philly tech CEO Rachel Jacobs, 39, U.S. Naval Academy cadet Justin Zemser, 20, and 55-year-old Wells Fargo VP Abid Gilani.

All 243 people aboard Amtrak 188 have now been accounted for, officials said Thursday.

The National Trans-



Brandon Bostian / PROVIDED

portation Safety Board previously said that they determined the train was traveling at 106 mph in a 50 mph speed limit zone and that the engineer hit the emergency brake as the train took a left curve.

The NTSB will soon interview the train's engineer, Brandon Bostian, 32.

Bostian's attorney, Philadelphia lawyer Rob-

ert Coggs, told ABC's "Nightline" that Bostian is "distraught" and cannot remember the derailment. Bostian suffered a concussion, leg injuries and a head wound requiring 14 staples in the crash, but he survived.

SAM NEWHOUSE  
sam.newhouse@metro.us



Investigators and rescue personnel gather near the crash site Thursday. / GETTY IMAGES

### Future safety

- Amtrak has said it will install positive train control, technology that restricts train speed to speed limits, on all rails by the end of 2015.

- "Positive train control

would have prevented this accident," Sumwalt said Thursday.

- Amtrak service from Philly to NYC and the Regional Rail's Trenton line are still discontinued.

### Quoted

"We want to know what he recalls of that tragic event, and then he can paint a picture."

Sumwalt, on planning to interview Amtrak engineer Brandon Bostian

# Big shocker: The MTA is pretty filthy

**Report.** Subway cleaning and painting are not up to scratch, according to a report released on Thursday by New York City Comptroller Scott Stringer's office.

is not up to scratch, according to a report released on Thursday by New York City Comptroller Scott Stringer's office.

"Fares keep going up, but anyone who takes the trains can tell you that we haven't seen a meaningful reduction in rats, garbage and peeling paint," Stringer said in a press release. "New York City Transit management needs to get its priorities straight [and] improve conditions underground."

The consequences of the lack of cleaning are

Next time you're on the subway, take a look around you. Notice peeling paint? Rats on the tracks? Tiles that need a good scrub?

The MTA's subway cleaning and maintenance



A filthy subway car floor is not an unfamiliar sight on the MTA.

GETTY IMAGES

## 10 stations with worst paint conditions

- Hoyt/Schermerhorn Street (G Line)
- Fulton Street (G Line)
- Clinton/Washington Avenues (G Line)
- Classon Avenue (G Line)
- Bedford/Nostrand Avenue (G Line)
- 157th Street (1 Line)
- 145th Street (1 Line)
- 116th Street/Columbia University (1 Line)
- Cathedral Parkway (1 Line)
- 103rd Street (1 Line)

not just unpleasant subway rides for New Yorkers — the report found that the conditions could also be contributing to more track fires and rat infestations. On top of that, the MTA is not meeting its own goals to fix peeling paint.

Between 2008 and 2013, the agency's spending on subway cleaning went from 6.3 percent to 5.4 percent of their revenue. Over this same period, their total revenue grew by 34 percent.

The report also found that the MTA cut its track-cleaning employees by almost 50 percent.

NIDHI PRAKASH  
@MetroNewYork  
nidhi.pakash@metro.us

## Weekend transit changes

May 15-18

### Weekend Service Changes & Advisories

#### Special Events International Food Festival

May 16-17, Along 9th Avenue

#### AIDS Walk May 17, 8:30 AM, Central Park

**2** Flatbush Av-bound: skip Christopher, Houston, Canal and Franklin Sts  
- Wakefield-bound: skip Eastern Pkwy, Grand Army Plaza and Bergen St

**3** Rockaway Av and Van Siclen Av Stations: closed for renovation  
- Harlem-bound: skip Eastern Pkwy, Grand Army Plaza and Bergen St

**4** Rockaway Av and Van Siclen Av Stations: closed for renovation  
- 103 St downtown platform: closed for renovation  
- Woodlawn-bound: skip 138 St-Grand Concourse, Eastern Pkwy, Grand Army Plaza and Bergen St

**5** No trains between E 180 St and Dyre Av

**6** 103 St downtown platform: closed for renovation  
- Pelham Bay Park-bound: run express from 3 Av-138 St to Hunts Point Av

**7** Vernon Blvd-Jackson Av - All trains board at the Flushing-bound platform or Times Sq-bound platform

**A** Ozone Park/Far Rockaway-bound platform at Rockaway Blvd is closed for renovation  
-Ozone Park/Far Rockaway-bound: skip 116, 110, 103, 96, 86, 81, 72, 50, 23, and Spring Sts

**C** Euclid Av-bound: skip 116, 110, 103, 96, 86, 81, 72, 50, 23 and Spring Sts

**D** Coney Island-bound: run via the from 36 St to Stillwell Av

**E** Jamaica Center-bound: run local from Roosevelt Av to 71 Av  
-Jamaica Center-bound: skip 36 St, Steinway St, 46 St, Northern Blvd and 65 St  
-World Trade Center-bound: run local from 71 Av to Queens Plaza & skip 23 St and Spring St

**F** Coney Island-bound: run local from 71 Av to 21 St-Queensbridge  
-Jamaica-bound: run local from Roosevelt Av to 71 Av

**J** Chambers St-bound: skip Chauncey St, Halsey St, Gates Av and Kosciuszko St

**L** No trains between Lorimer St and 8 Av

**M** Service extended to 57 St/F Station, Manhattan

**N** Astoria-bound: stop at 53 St and 45 St  
-Coney Island-bound: skip 49 St

**Q** 57 St/7 Av-bound: run express from Kings Hwy to Prospect Park

**R** Forest Hills-bound: skip 36 St, Steinway St, 46 St, Northern Blvd, 65 St

**S** Rockaway Park Shuttle: no trains running

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## Iran navy fires shots at tanker as tensions rise in Gulf

Iranian naval vessels fired shots at a Singapore-flagged tanker in the Gulf on Thursday in what appeared to be the country's latest attempt to settle a legal dispute by force with a passing commercial vessel, U.S. officials said.

Around noon in the Gulf, five Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps naval ships approached the Alpine Eternity, prompting the oil-products tanker to flee to safety in United Arab Emirates' waters, the officials said.

One U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Iran had attempted to intercept the vessel in international waters because Tehran says it is liable for damage to an Iranian-owned oil platform it hit on March 22.

### Quoted

**"The pattern looks like the Revolutionary Guards are using a commercial pretext to intervene in the incidents to date."**

A leading shipping underwriter

REUTERS

The incident signaled further escalation in tensions two weeks after Iranian patrol ships diverted a Marshall Islands-flagged container vessel from the Strait of Hormuz to settle a years-old debt case.

The Pentagon declined to say whether it would again order U.S. warships to accompany commercial vessels passing through the Strait of Hormuz, as it did after the last incident.

REUTERS

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# 4

## things you need to know

### Lawmakers blast Secret Service's 'culture of fear'

The U.S. Secret Service has pervasive problems and a deep-seated culture of fear and retaliation, U.S. lawmakers said on Thursday at a hearing to investigate how two senior agents drove a government car into White House

barricades inches from a possible bomb after a late-night party.

The agency has come under pressure this past year over a string of embarrassing allegations.

"We have a culture of secrecy, a culture of complacency and a culture of fear and retaliation," said Democratic Representative Elijah Cummings of Maryland.

REUTERS



thought.

The latest move by Japan's third-largest automaker brings the overall global total of vehicles recalled for Takata-related air bags to around 36 million since 2008 and comes a day after Toyota and Nissan recalled 6.5 million vehicles worldwide.

Honda said it decided to recall the cars after finding some Takata bag inflators were not sealed properly.



### Honda adds to air bag recalls, global tally now around 36M

Honda recalled close to 5 million vehicles fitted with potentially faulty Takata air bag inflators, as investigations showed the problem behind one of the biggest auto safety crises may be more widespread than

U.S. efforts to broker a nuclear deal with Iran.

Obama, hosting the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council at Camp David, faced the challenge of allaying Gulf Arab fears that the possible lifting of international sanctions on Tehran would embolden it to further destabilize the region.

### Obama seeks to reassure Gulf allies on Iran

President Barack Obama sought to reassure Saudi Arabia and other Gulf allies of Washington's commitment to their security despite deep concern among Arab leaders about

REUTERS

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# Nepal earthquake death toll rises

**Missing.** Helicopters flew over eastern Nepal, and a team sent up a drone to search for US Marines' Huey chopper.

The death toll rose to 110 from the Himalayan country's second big earthquake in less than three weeks, according to the home ministry.

A Reuters correspondent flew on a Nepali military helicopter along the Tamakoshi River that runs by the town of Charikot, in the mountainous Dolakha district worst hit by Tuesday's 7.3 magnitude quake that has killed more than 100 people.

The river winds through rugged Himalayan terrain in an area whose tallest peak soars over 23,000 feet. Hillsides are cloaked



A boy walks by collapsed buildings in Kathmandu, Nepal. / GETTY IMAGES

soldiers.

"We are using infrared vision to look for hotspots and any signs of life," said drone operator Shepherd Eaton, from GlobalMedic, a Canadian aid agency that specializes in search and rescue. Eaton and his partner wore cowboy hats, T-shirts and jeans and worked with a Nepali army team that had a helicopter.

REUTERS

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mastermind George  
Miller, go to  
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"Mad Max's  
real star

### Charlize Theron

Even Charlize Theron was surprised when she got into "Mad Max: Fury Road" and learned her character, Furiosa, was the real star. "I remember when George Miller showed me the storyboard, I knew there would be an important female role, but as I started to turn the pages, I was in such shock. She is the one who carries the emotion of the script. I guess that is also what stuns the people who see the film. They

expect Max to be the leader. But actually she is the one who shakes up the storyline with a haul on the wheel!"

Almost as shocking was what she did to her head: shave it. "Keeping my hair long would have looked weird," she says, laughing. "That was the only way I could see myself slipping into this underground, highly mechanical atmosphere, only surrounded by guys. That seemed impossible to do with a ponytail on my head. One day, I called George, and I suggested that we cut my hair. And he said OK! Three hours later, I was bald." MWN



Furiosa takes the wheel  
in "Mad Max: Fury Road"  
JASIN BOLAND

THE FUN STARTS HERE

# Tom Hardy reveals the feminist side of 'Mad Max'

The "Mad Max: Fury Road" star explains why he's not actually the star



NED EHRBAR  
@Nedrick  
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It's taken 30 years to bring Mad Max back to the big screen. In the supercharged update, Tom Hardy steps in for Mel Gibson — and then just as quickly steps aside for costar Charlize Theron. And for Hardy, that's just fine.

### This isn't your dad's "Mad Max"

"Mad Max is not actually in the driver's seat in this movie," Hardy says. "It's about time you had better female leads in action movies. This is not a feminist argument, it's a person-hood situation. This is how we ought to reflect the times — not so much strong women, but just people. You know, you have a male and a female who are both just personhood situations on both sides of the gender. I wouldn't put it past George to come up with a

transgender [hero]; do you know what I mean? He's not the type of person who's going to mince his words."

### The apocalypse can be good for a laugh

"There's a sense of humor that George has, a certain fearlessness in the enjoyment of that postapocalyptic world, demented fun," Hardy says. "There's not just, like, good versus evil, you know, or 'The Road' or something like that where everything's just like devastatingly bleak,

you know? It's a carnival, sort of a circus, sort of Vaudevillian. There is something almost Terry Gilliam-esque, Monty Python-esque, without banging the gong. There's almost a tongue-in-cheek delirium. Everything is designed as a sort of ghastly, grotesque humor."

### The film has a strong feminist streak

"I think it's very smart of George to deliver a female lead. He's reflecting the times as well as pioneering at the same time," Hardy explains.

"It's no surprise to me that he would use a character that is synonymous with Mel Gibson — the silhouette, the icon of Mad Max — but it's clear right down to the shoulder pad on her left arm that [Theron] is the female protagonist. Charlize led this entire movie. One has to yield to that, because if you fight it, you get malleted."

wknd

Hardy at Cannes  
GETTY IMAGES

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# Bringing Bumper back

"Workaholics" star Adam DeVine is back for more in "Pitch Perfect 2"



Not Denzel Washington  
GETTY IMAGES

Your character works as a campus security guard. Did you do any ride-alongs to prepare?

Adam DeVine didn't think much of "Pitch Perfect" initially. "Just because I'm generally ill-prepared and smoke too much weed, I thought the first one was a baseball movie when I went to the audition," he remembers. "I get there, and there's all these super-handsome dudes with abs in their cheeks, and they're all singing." Luckily, he knew what he was getting into for "Pitch Perfect 2."

A campus security ride-along? [Laughs] The campus security part of the movie isn't that detailed. I basically just wear a T-shirt. I'm not really securing much. You don't delve into that backstory too deeply. But to answer your question, no. Not at all. I did make out with Rebel [Wilson] several times before just to see how well our lips worked together. That was our ride-along. She's a killer smoocher. That girl has big old full lips, like little pillows.

I'm sure she says the same about you.  
I hope so.

You have a detailed Wikipedia page.

My Wikipedia page is



Adam DeVine (right) works on some onscreen romance with Rebel Wilson in "Pitch Perfect 2." RICHARD CARTWRIGHT

super-weird. When I first moved to L.A., I needed to have a bio, and I hadn't done anything besides a few high school plays and hosting a pep rally or whatever, so I just cut and pasted Denzel Washington's bio as a joke. So it was like, "Adam DeVine, star of 'Man on Fire' and 'Training Day,'" and then it said stuff like, "went to Fordham University, studied at the American Conservatory of Dramatic Arts in San Francisco." Everything else they caught eventually, but somehow the Fordham and American Conservatory

stuff has stayed, so people think I'm, like, very well educated. [laughs]

**But the part about you getting hit by a cement truck?**

I was hit by a cement truck when I was a kid, yeah, and I couldn't walk for a couple of years. That was a huge turning point in my life. I'm glad it happened because I don't think my parents would've allowed me to move to L.A. when I was 18. They were all, "He almost died that one time. We can't say no to him."

**According to that Wikipedia page, next month marks the 20th anniversary of the accident. What are you going to do to celebrate?**

I need to celebrate with these legs — climb something, jump off things. Maybe I should get a cheap cement truck and blow it up. Happy anniversary, me!



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# 'Mad Max: Fury Road' is an action lover's fever dream



MATT PRIGGE  
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George Miller had to wait 30 years to make a fourth "Mad Max" movie. The anticipation shows: "Mad Max: Fury Road" explodes in a relentless flurry of grease-stained automotive mayhem peppered with explosions, collisions, dudes flying about on bending sticks and reams of S&M duds. Max returns, now as Tom Hardy and this time with Furiosa (Charlize Theron), a one-armed warrior who's stolen a gaggle of young brides from a white-haired overlord.

Hardy, an actor who never likes to be too liked, happily hands the movie over to Theron, whose buzz cut opens up her face, allowing her to project a constant aura of vulnerability and concentrated badassery. But



Not only does "Mad Max: Fury Road" recast its hero from Mel Gibson to Tom Hardy, it gives more screen time to the female lead, robot-armed warrior Furiosa (Charlize Theron). **WARNER BROS. PICTURES**

Theron is still a pawn; the real star is Miller. Allowed to go back to his roots, especially after doing "Babe" and "Happy Feet" movies, he goes supersized times 1,000. Still, it exhausts without tiring out, running as it does "only" two hours and taking just enough time for characters and a sly, angry feminist streak.

## 'Mad Max: Fury Road'

Director: George Miller  
Stars: Tom Hardy, Charlize Theron  
Rating: R

• • • •

## 'Pitch Perfect 2'

• • • •

Well before it drops a left field Sonia Sotomayor joke, it's clear "Pitch Perfect 2," like its predecessor, isn't an Up With People pepfest, getting in our face and ear canals with shrilly-committed a cappella. It wants to be an earnest musical and a hypothetical live-action "Simpsons" episode. When the Green Bay Packers swing by for an all-star a cappella off, the strange brew is something else. It still succumbs to sloppy sequelitus. The plot doesn't



Hailee Steinfeld joins Anna Kendrick, Brittany Snow, Alexis Knapp and Rebel Wilson for the second "Pitch Perfect." **RICHARD CARTWRIGHT**

make much sense, even for a winkingly slapdash affair. The film moves, be it through music or gags, though it could be more discerning with the latter. The first half has a comic verve, but it winds up both running out of steam and increasingly

falling back on dumb, questionable jokes and old-school bad ethnic humor. "Pitch Perfect 2" is hugely likable, and often exponentially funnier than it ever had to be, but no movie that so wastes Kaley Cuoco can be all good. **MP**

## 'Slow West'

• • • •

"Slow West" isn't your usual anti-Western. For one thing, it's roughly half a regular Western. Kodi Smit-McPhee plays Jay, a 16-year-old Scotsman who's come to the great Old West to locate his beloved. Luckily, he's picked up by Silas (Michael Fassbender), a cigarillo-chomping man with a name, and they must face off against, among others, a fur coat-rocking baddie (Ben Mendelsohn).



Kodi Smit-McPhee and Michael Fassbender head across the prairie in "Slow West." **A24**

Silas seems to have walked straight out of the Western genre itself, and it's the back-and-forth between myth and

something weirder that gives "Slow West" its tension and unique voice. Its pitilessness is tempered by a goofy streak, which makes room for absurdist diversions and sight gags. And it has a climax that works as both a deconstruction and a primo example of a classic shoot-'em-up set piece. Director John Maclean (formerly of The Beta Band) wants you to be conscious of genre tropes and bite your nails at the same time. You can watch it with your art-snob pals and with your Clint Eastwood movie-raised dad. **MP**

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# Rival Sons' quest for authenticity



Rival Sons from left: Michael Miley, Jay Buchanan, Dave Beste and Scott Holiday. MATT WIGNALL

Lead singer Jay Buchanan tells us why being in a rock band isn't about the girls, money or attention for him.



EMILY LAURENCE  
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Rival Sons' bluesy, pure rock 'n' roll sound has broad appeal, with fans ranging from hard-core rockers to hipster kids sick of listening to The Black Keys on repeat. But lead singer Jay Buchanan says he doesn't play for any of the hundreds of fans in the audience.

"I play for the band," he tells us. "Music is such an intense affair. There's

so much energy swirling around onstage or in the studio. You have to serve the song first, and because that is so consuming, the audience is an after-thought."

## Lightning in a bottle

The foursome is currently on tour promoting their album "Great Western Valkyrie," which came out last summer. "It was a difficult record to make because we did it at such an intense, frantic pace," says Buchanan.

The band purposely didn't write any of the songs until they were all in the studio together. "We go in there with nothing and then create a force," he explains.

"We capture that energy, an honest snapshot of that moment. That immediacy and energy is really a keystone for Rival Sons."

## Wanting a reaction

To Buchanan, being a musician means being a storyteller. "People have always told stories through song, and the melody is a way for people to remember every detail — it's the candy coating of the message," he says. He scoffs a bit at artists who try to take away from that.

## Learning to compromise

Buchanan started his music career as a solo artist, playing with Rival Sons on the side but went all in about seven years ago. "I've never allowed myself to compromise so much, ever," he says of being in a band. "But there's something so beautiful in collaboration. I would have missed out on so many beautiful, creative moments."

## Rival Sons in concert

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Authenticity remains the most important aspect to the singer. "When I'm making music or listening to music, I'm really just trying to find the truth," he says. "I'm just trying to find something that's going to make me feel something I didn't feel before."





See Spalding tonight at Le Poisson Rouge. Tickets are \$40. Head to [LePoissonRouge.com](http://LePoissonRouge.com) for details. HOLLY ANDRES

# Evolution in song

Jazz singer Esperanza Spalding introduces her alter ego.

 LISA WEIDENFELD  
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[lisa.weidenfeld@metro.us](mailto:lisa.weidenfeld@metro.us)

Esperanza Spalding is trying out the jazz version of Beyoncé's *Sasha Fierce*. Her latest tour, based on her upcoming album, "Emily's D+ Evolution," is all about Emily, but don't ask her to quantify it too much. Asked if she would say Emily is a persona, she counters, "I wouldn't say anything. I wouldn't say. I wish people could see it first, and then they could talk about it."

But she is willing to elaborate on what Emily is. "It's like when you put on a play for your parents, with your friends. It's you, but you're playing other people. So there's a lot of other people, beyond the characters who are passively involved in the stories of each song, but

I would say that Emily's the one who I'm pretending onstage to play. She's a version of me through which I'm pretending."

The album is Spalding's first since 2012's "Radio Music Society," for which she won a Grammy. If you're not familiar with her, you might remember the time she won a best new artist Grammy over Justin Bieber, and his fans were not pleased, to say the least. But with all that in the past, she's ready to focus on her new project, which she says "will hopefully come out this year."

She says that the Emily character isn't different from who she is. It is, after all, her middle name. "I was called Emily for a lot of my life by the people closest to me because no one wanted to go through the trouble of 'Esperanza.' So it reminds me of simpler questions and simpler answers to those questions."

Don't expect her to play too many of her older standards during this show, though she hasn't totally dropped her ear-

## On being influential

Asked if she feels a sense of responsibility since she might be some people's entry point into jazz, she quickly demurs. "No, that just happened because a lot of my stuff isn't very jazzy, and I was younger and prettier than other artists, and we live in this beauty-centric, youth-centric culture. Young people are used to being fed that information through that medium of young and beautiful."

She goes on to explain, "Some people say that about me, and I appreciate why they do. Part of the reason, unfortunately, that young people who aren't into jazz like my music is probably because a lot of it doesn't really sound like jazz. But maybe if they would follow me into the realms of my life that are very jazz-based, they'd get exposed to some more real jazz. But maybe not."

lier work. "I do a lot of gigs still with all kinds of repertoire from previous projects, so it doesn't really feel like I'm leaving it aside. It's like if you were on a TV series and then you did a play. It's not really walking away from anything," explains Spalding.

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**Horoscope**

**♈ Taurus | April 21-May 21**  
You will be able to sell a creative concept if you pitch your idea. Brain-storming with successful colleagues will give you valuable insight to strive for more.

**♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20**  
You will be eager to succeed, but someone close to you will feel left out if your career aspirations take up too much of your time.

**♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22**  
Someone will try to jeopardize your position. Don't go out on a limb for someone you cannot trust.

**♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22**  
An unanticipated challenge will have a prosperous outcome. Use your leadership abilities to strengthen your business position.

**♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22**  
A love interest will take you by surprise. Ask your financial adviser to recommend a sound investment choice that will help you stay solvent.

**♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22**  
A romantic involvement is in the cards. A current or new relationship will increase in depth and passion.

**♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21**  
A surprising offer will come your way. Don't allow yourself to be sidetracked.

**♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21**  
You will be distracted today. Don't allow your lack of concentration to result in a careless mistake.

**♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20**  
A power struggle at home will lead to long-lasting resentment. Compromise and cooperation will help rectify the situation.

**♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18**  
Travel and education will feature strongly in your

day. Consider traveling to an area whose features are different from your own.

**♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20**  
Procrastination will be your downfall. Get an early start on your daily responsibilities if you want to have time for pleasurable activities that will ease your mind.

**♈ Aries | March 21-April 19**  
Don't panic if your plans fall through. Instead, spend time pampering yourself. Some leisure time reading, listening to music or just relaxing will help soothe your frazzled nerves.

EUGENIA LAST

**Letters to the editor****Let's be more generous**

**Re: 'Moms need money' (Metro, May 13)** I believe

that we must help all women. We need living wages and whatever assistance mothers need. While some moms on welfare spend money on drugs, etc., most don't. I live on disability, and it is very stressful to live on so little money, and welfare gives way less. This is so hurtful and unnecessary. Let's be generous in the same way that we are, unfortunately generous, with the military. Why spend trillions on a murderous war in Iraq, but not give moms and children what they need?

Instead of focusing our anger on moms on welfare, let's focus on changing the forces that make it so hard for most

of us to live well. The powers that be want us to fight each other, instead of making this a society that cares for all of our people, not just the very rich.

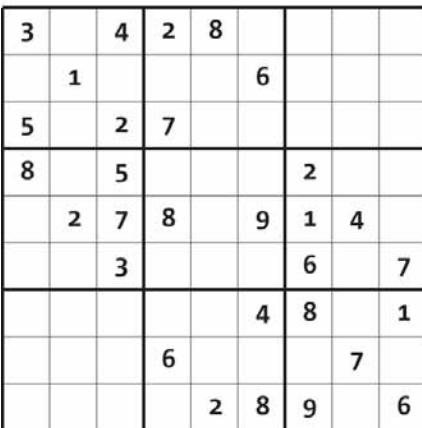
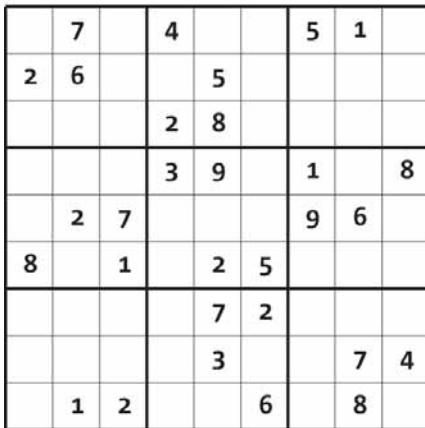
Let's have programs for moms on welfare who want to work that offer good, high-paying jobs, and programs for those who have work but need more help. If moms, or dads for that matter, want to stay home with their kids, why not pay them?

There is a monetary value to society for the work mothers, and sometimes fathers, do at home.

Let's make this a society that is generous, relaxed and peaceful for all. **SHIFRA FREEWOMAN**

**letters@metro.us**

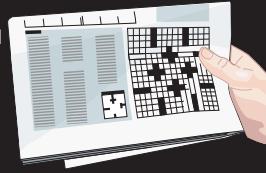
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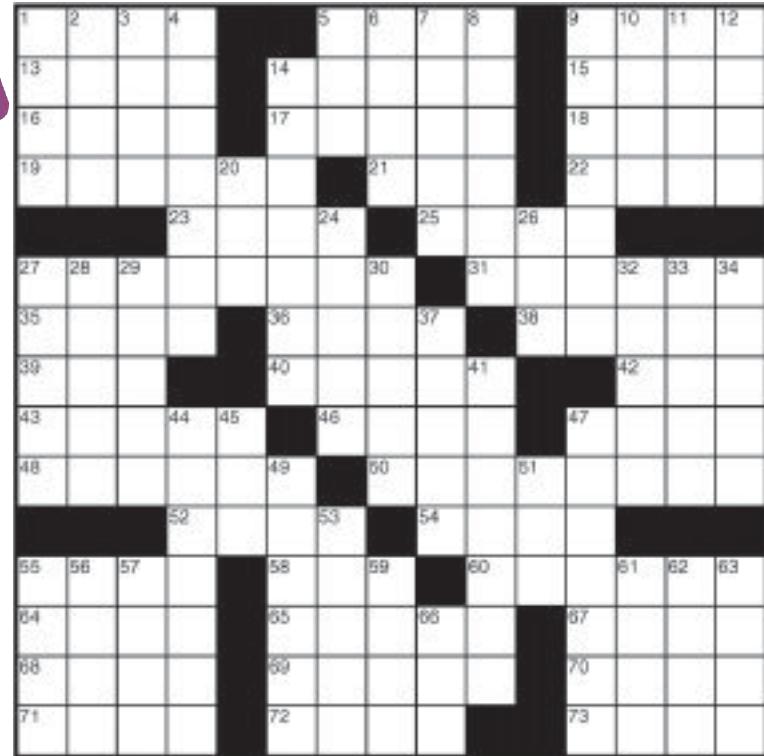
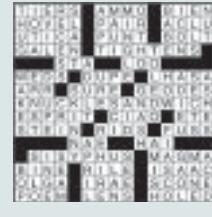
**Crossword****Across**

- 1 Fat fiddle
- 5 Huge, in combos
- 9 Bench sitters
- 13 Norway's capital
- 14 Chef's tool
- 15 Axiom
- 16 Kelly of "Pogo"
- 17 Chloroform kin
- 18 Mineral deposits
- 19 Did some camels
- 21 Yoko --
- 22 Forest grazers
- 23 Island off Italy
- 25 Struck silent
- 27 Deli supply
- 31 Has words?
- 35 Fragrant blossom
- 36 Country addrs.
- 38 Declare invalid
- 39 Mamie's man
- 40 Agreements
- 42 Lemon cooler
- 43 Liner levels
- 46 Purse closer
- 47 Dimensions
- 48 Tycoon's home
- 50 Robs (2 wds.)
- 52 Causes a blister
- 54 Ocean flier
- 55 Comet's head
- 58 Sponge off of
- 60 Undamaged

- 64 Kind of sax
- 65 Dunce
- 67 Brick material
- 68 Flamingo color
- 69 DEA agents
- 70 Pay attention
- 71 Sit for a portrait
- 72 Insect pest
- 73 Egad!
- 32 Author -- Nin
- 33 Aggressive vine
- 34 Lie dormant
- 37 Metamorphic rock
- 41 Poltergeists
- 44 Bar sing-along
- 45 Erwin of films
- 47 Incomplete
- 49 On the wane
- 51 Anderson Cooper's network
- 53 Khartoum's land
- 55 Yokums' creator
- 56 Mixed bag
- 57 Natural elevs.
- 59 Oscar-winner -- Sorvino
- 61 Jai --
- 62 Garden pond fish
- 63 Small fry
- 66 Halloween mo.

**Down**

- 1 Takes an oath
- 2 Meryl, in "Out of Africa"
- 3 Earthen jar
- 4 State-run game
- 5 Engineering sch.
- 6 Nymph who pined away
- 7 Actress -- Davis
- 8 Pointers
- 9 Crushed, as grapes
- 10 Malta's money
- 11 Helm position
- 12 Predicament
- 14 Many a cardinal
- 20 Yellowstone sight
- 24 Poker stakes
- 26 Eco-friendly feds
- 27 Soar
- 28 Goes backpacking
- 29 Vote in
- 30 Connery and Penn

**Yesterday's answer**

# From fervor to focus

**NHL.** The Rangers don't have much time to celebrate their big Game 7 win.

When the tale is told and retold days, weeks, months, years, decades later, the yarn will be spun as a brilliant bit of coaching engineering.

The truth of the matter is that it was, in hockey parlance, "a bounce."

Derek Stepan won an offensive zone faceoff, the puck eventually finding its way onto Keith Yandle's stick. A quick pass to Dan Girardi, who fired a shot that ricocheted off of bodies. To Stepan alone in the left circle.

All it took was a mere snap of the wrist for Stepan's face to transform into a mask of exhilaration.

"It's a special feeling," Stepan said, a few short minutes after the Rangers reached the Eastern Conference Final for the third time in four years by besting the Capitals, 2-1, in overtime of Game 7 of the Metropolitan Division Final on his series-clinching goal.

The Rangers became the first team in NHL history to win a playoff series after trailing 1-3 in successive years. Last year, on their way to the Stanley Cup Final, the Rangers defeated the Penguins in Game 7 of the semi-final after losing three of the first

## The slate

Upcoming Eastern Conference Final schedule:

- **Game 1:** Saturday at Rangers, 1 p.m., NBC
- **Game 2:** Monday at Rangers, 8 p.m., NBCSN
- **Game 3:** Wednesday at Lightning, 8 p.m., NBCSN
- **Game 4:** Friday, May 22 at Lightning, 8 p.m., NBCSN

four games of the series.

"We've been through so many things over the last few years," said Henrik Lundqvist, who made 35 saves in winning his sixth Game 7. "I think it's important that you stay focused on the positives. [The Capitals] won three out of the [first] four but [they] were close games. That's important to know that you don't need to change much to win a game."

Up next will be an on-ice reunion with ex-mates Brian Boyle, Ryan Callahan and Anton Stralman and their Tampa Bay Lightning teammates in the Eastern Conference Final (Game 1 Saturday, 1 p.m. at MSG, NBC). Tampa Bay won all three regular-season meetings between the teams in the by an aggregate 15-7 margin.

DENIS GORMAN  
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## MLB. Yanks, Mets look to maintain position

The Yankees and Mets are both clinging onto division leads in the middle of the season's second month.

The Yankees will be at Kansas City this weekend, facing a Royals team that also sits atop their respective division.

Michael Pineda is scheduled to get the ball for the Yankees on Friday with C.C. Sabathia set for Saturday and Nathan Eovaldi ready for Sunday.

The Mets, meanwhile, will continue their home series against the basement-dwelling Brew-



Bartolo Colon gets the start for the Mets on Friday. / GETTY IMAGES

ers. Bartolo Colon will get the ball for New York Friday, with Jacob deGrom on tap for Saturday and Noah Syndergaard set for Sunday. MATT BURKE



Derek Stepan celebrates his series-winning goal Wednesday night. / GETTY IMAGES

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**3**  
**SPORTS**

**NFL**  
**Patriots fightback**

As expected, Tom Brady filed an appeal of his four-game suspension Thursday. The Patriots also created a website, titled "The Wells Report in Context" in which it refutes many theories in the document. "The conclusions of the Wells Report are, at best, incomplete, incorrect and lack context," the lengthy response reads.

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### LEGAL NOTICES

**Notice of Formation of Carlson Sullivan Pictures LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of N.Y. (SSNY) on March 23, 2015. Office location: New York County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process to: the LLC c/o 20 New Villa Court, Glen Cove, N.Y. 11542. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

**NOTICE IS HEARBY GIVEN, PURSUANT TO LAW,** that the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, June 03, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. at 66 John Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, on a petition for ABV New York LLC to continue to maintain and operate an unenclosed sidewalk café at 1504 Lexington Ave. in the Borough of Manhattan for a term of two years.

REQUESTS FOR COPIES OF THE PROPOSED REVOCABLE CONSENT AGREEMENT MAY BE ADDRESSED TO: DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, ATTN: FOIL OFFICER, 42 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NY 10004.

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